

Message Text

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11-S
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 SS-15 SP-02 DHA-02 INR-07 NSC-05

CIAE-00 /054 W
----- 066892

R 201639Z AUG 76
FM USMISSION GENEVA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1974
AMEMBASSY ROME
INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
AMEMBASSY VIENNA
AMCONSUL LENINGRAD

C O N F I D E N T I A L GENEVA 6679

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, SREF, IS, UR
SUBJ: SOVIET JEWS WHO CHANGE DIRECTIONS IN VIENNA

REF: A. GENEVA 6396, B. ROME 13185

1. UPON RECEIPT REF B, MISSION BEGAN INVESTIGATION TO DETERMINE CAUSE OF EVIDENT DISCREPANCY BETWEEN REFUGEE FIGURES CITED REFS. MISSION'S FIGURES RECHECKED AND RECONCILE WITH NUMBER OF PERSONS SHOWN ON VOLAG REGISTRATION CARDS ON FILE HERE.

2. APPARENT DISCREPANCY IN CASES REPORTED REFTELS ARISES FROM DIFFERENT ACCOUNTING METHODS USED IN TALLYING CASELOADS. REF B INDICATES ROME COUNTS BY CASES (HEADS OF FAMILIES, SINGLES, ETC.) WHEREAS MISSION COUNT, BASED ON VOLAG REGISTRATION CARDS, SHOWS ACTUAL NUMBER OF REFUGEES (INDIVIDUALS). THIS EVIDENTLY ACCOUNTS FOR MAJOR PORTION OF THE DIFFERENCE.

3. IN ADDITION, HOWEVER, THERE ARE SEVERAL OTHER FACTORS WHICH CONTRIBUTE TO THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE STATISTICS COMPILED BY THE EMBASSY AND THE MISSION,
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AS FOLLOWS. MISSION CASELOAD FIGURES INCLUDE REFUGEES

REGISTERED FOR USRP ASSISTANCE WHO HAVE APPLIED FOR BUT NOT YET RECEIVED INS APPROVAL FOR IMMIGRATION TO U.S.; NEWLY ARRIVED REFUGEES WHO HAVE NOT YET APPLIED TO INS FOR IMMIGRATION (IN THIS REGARD, REFERENCE TO THOSE "AWAITING CONDITIONAL ENTRY PROCESSING," IN PARA 2, REF A, IS INEXACT); CASES TURNED DOWN BY INS FOR IMMIGRATION TO U.S.; REFUGEES GOING TO COUNTRIES OTHER THAN U.S. AN ADDITIONAL ELEMENT IS THE TIME LAG IN RECEIPT IN GENEVA OF ICEM CLOSURE LISTS FOR REFUGEES WHO HAVE DEPARTED FOR RESETTLEMENT COUNTRIES; REOME WILL HAVE CLOSED OUT THESE CASES WHILE MISSION CONTINUES TO CARRY THEM. AS STATED ABOVE, MISSION FIGURES REFLECT ALL THOSE REFUGEES BEING CARRIED BY VOLUNTARY AGENCIES AT A GIVEN TIME FOR WHOM USRP IS PAYING CARE AND MAINTENANCE COSTS.

4. WHILE CONCURRING IN EMBASSY'S OBSERVATION (PARA 5, REF B) THAT VOLAGS REFUSE CONTINUED ASSISTANCE TO APPLICANTS WHO HAVE BEEN DENIED CONDITIONAL ENTRY BY INS ON GROUNDS OF PRIOR RESETTLEMENT ELSEWHERE, (OTHER THAN FOR RESETTLEMENT, DOCUMENTATION AND TRANSPORTATION), IT IS NONETHELESS TRUE THAT FOR THOSE REJECTED ON OTHER GROUNDS, USRP CONTINUES TO REIMBURSE VOLAGS FOR EXPENSES INCURRED FOR THEIR CARE AND MAINTENANCE. THIS IS BASED ON FACT THAT SUCH REJECTTEES CONTINUE TO BE REFUGEES UNTIL RESETTLED IN COUNTRY OF CHOICE OR EXPIRATION OF THREE-YEAR ELIGIBILITY PERIOD, WHICH EVER COMES FIRST. CATTO

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DATA, JEWS, REFUGEE RESETTLEMENT, INVESTIGATIONS, EMIGRANTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 20 AUG 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: KelleyW0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976GENEVA06679
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760320-0859
From: GENEVA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760835/aaaabdxw.tel
Line Count: 89
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 GENEVA 6396, 76 ROME 13185
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: KelleyW0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 29 MAR 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <29 MAR 2004 by greeneet>; APPROVED <03 AUG 2004 by KelleyW0>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SOVIET JEWS WHO CHANGE DIRECTIONS IN VIENNA
TAGS: PFOR, SREF, IS, UR
To: STATE ROME
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006